

Volunteer Summit 7/12 Sticky Pad Notes - *During the morning sessions, volunteers had an opportunity to share answers to the following prompts by posting sticky notes under each query.*

What does success look like?

For our community:

- Critical mass of New Vermonters to be seen and valued
- Jobs filled, services provided to community (health, entertainment, business training)

For me as a volunteer

- Refugees in dignified employment—providing financial capacity to establish their lives
- TO see growing independence

For refugees

- Staying here happy and thriving
- Feel safe and empowered
- Safe, affordable, respectful and sustainable life while here
- Community, job, housing, acclimation

Where do we fit in the system?

What is my role in the system?

- Staffing, employment services
- Organizing teams
- Advisory resource
- Volunteer support
- Leadership of co-sponsorship circle
- Leader of a circle of care of an Afghan family in brattleboro
- Agency connections
- Assist others in the most kind and effective way possible
- Support housing developing to address that issue as it is a significant barrier
- Advocating for refugee/New American employment

What is the role of others:

- Consultative
- Getting the refugees ready for employment
- Refugee agency relationships
- Training
- I'm not entirely sure

What is left undone?

- Looking at licensing exams for language (ESL/ELL) barriers to immigrants/newcomers
- Pulling different groups together
- Community relationships
- Knowing how to end support
- Background checks (sometimes strictly enforced) = uneven policy can be obstacle
- Develop an ongoing process; avoid continually inventing the wheel
- Making sure that families of Afghans already here can join them
- Resources to support the linkage between refugees and employers